

June 2004

# The Oscillator

*The Club...wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective and established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.*

**Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club**

Est: 1978

## KK7TN Paragraphs Don Stettler KK7TN

### OTVARC SPOTLIGHT:

- Club Meeting - June 9
- SEA-PAC - June 18 - 20
- Board Meeting - June 23
- Field Day - June 26-27
- Lunch Bunch - June 26 (Field Day)
- Travelers' - June 26 - 27 (Vernonia)
- Fifth Wednesday Contest - June 30
- Club Meeting - July 14
- Lunch Bunch - July 24
- Board Meeting - July 28
- Club Meeting - August 11

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June is truly the big month on the club calendar of events with SEA-PAC and Field Day a week apart.

OTVARC is renown for its sponsorship of SEA-PAC. Year after year the club pulls off what I consider a huge feat that brings hams together from all over the Northwest and beyond. This doesn't happen by accident. It is because of excellent leadership and long hours of hard work.

Those of you who attended the May club meeting heard Will

Sheffield N7THL name all those who participated in this year's SEA-PAC planning and execution. Even though the list was long Will's fear was that he left someone out.

I understand that concern because it is truly a team effort and everyone involved has an important role. It is a big job! My guess is that everyone involved is tired by the time the convention is over.

That may be but it seems that there is a quick recovery because most come back for more next year. Congratulations to our SEA-PAC team.

Field Day is another OTVARC activity that just doesn't happen. Like SEA-PAC it requires extensive planning. Thanks to J. D. Fort K7JDF for taking the leadership again this year.

Please support your club, and have a good time, by participating in SEA-PAC (June 18 - 20) at Seaside, and Field Day at Vernonia, (June 26-27).

Check out the national news Ernie and Claire Johnson got for ham radio on page 3.

73, Don KK7TN

## THE PROGRAM - Wednesday, June 9th

We meet Wednesday, June 9th at 7:00 pm at Beaverton Elks' Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings. Field Day is a premiere event every year. J.D. Fort K7JDF will fill us in on the plans for our

Vernonia operation. If you've never operated at Field Day, you're missing out. Now is your chance.

Why not come early and enjoy dinner at the Elks' Cafeteria line?

## TRAVELERS' CAMPOUT

Anderson Park is a few blocks from downtown Vernonia, at the end of Oregon's newest State Park, Banks-Vernonia Linear. Arrangements are finalized for June 25 - 27. We're setting up camp at the east end of this popular site. This is at our Field Day site in Vernonia, Oregon.

This year full hookup camp sites are no-host and available for \$16.00 per night. Tent camping is \$10.00 per night. OTVARC will pick up the tab for one night of tent camping or RV dry camping near the operating area on the east end of the park.

Spaces are being reserved beginning Friday night. This fee will allow us use of a very nice public shower facility for those who feel the need for a refreshing break.

**Anderson Park:** [www.vernonia-or.gov/vernonia\\_park\\_anderson.htm](http://www.vernonia-or.gov/vernonia_park_anderson.htm)

## HAMFests

**June 19-20, 2004: Seaside, OR**  
**SEA-PAC, NW Div Convention**  
<http://www.seapac.org>  
 Will Sheffield, N7THL  
 PO Box 25466  
 Portland, OR 97298-0466  
 Phone: 503.642.7314  
 Email: [n7thl@juno.com](mailto:n7thl@juno.com)

**July 16 - 18, 2004**  
**Pacific NW DX Convention**  
<http://www.wwdx.org>  
 Joe Gregory, W7QN  
 509 North 71st Street  
 Seattle, WA 98103  
 Phone: 206-784-1089  
 Email: [w7qn@msn.com](mailto:w7qn@msn.com)

**July 24, 2004**  
**Coos County Radio Club**  
<http://www.coosradioclub.org>  
 Paul Andersen, K7AIA  
 PO Box 3009  
 Coos Bay, OR 97420  
 Phone: 541-888-2050  
 Email: [k7aia@arrl.net](mailto:k7aia@arrl.net)

**July 30 - August 1, 2004**  
**3905 Century Club Convention**  
[http://www.alpinesoft.com/eye\\_ball](http://www.alpinesoft.com/eye_ball)  
 Dean Davis, KL7OR  
 3596 Karen Avenue South  
 Salem, OR 97302  
 Phone: 503-540-3270  
 Email: [deandavis@alpinesoft.com](mailto:deandavis@alpinesoft.com)

## Ernie Johnson Makes National News

Ernie and Clair Johnson (K7EJ and N7CM) have a way of making news! They have appeared in the newspaper and on television this year, and now they've broken into a national magazine. RESOURCE NEWS is the magazine of the Association for Agricultural Engineers. Two of our members are also related to this organization, the other being President Don Stettler KK7TN.

On Page 3 you'll find a copy of the article right out of RESOURCE MAGAZINE. It is re-printed here by permission of the editor.

This is how amateur radio gets known to our colleagues. Congratulations Ernie and Claire and thanks for being our ambassadors.

## VE REPORT, Carl WS7L

Our next session will be at SEA-PAC on June 19th at 9:00 am at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (across from Seaside Convention Center).

You will need a check or money order for the \$12 testing fee made out to ARRL VEC.

Call me at 503.629.5796. or email to [ws7l@arrl.net](mailto:ws7l@arrl.net).

Carl WS7L

## LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday,  
 June 26, 2004 at 5:30 p.m.  
 Vernonia Field Day Site  
 Anderson Park

Questions or comments  
 Julie Landers KD7GQW  
 503.646.1546

Is there a location you'd like to use for a Lunch Bunch? Pass along the information.

Thank you

## Club Events

**June 1: SEA-PAC Board (7 pm)**

**June 9: Club Meeting (7 pm)**

**June 18 - 20: SEA-PAC**

**June 23: Board Meeting (7 pm)**

**June 25 - 26: FIELD DAY**

**June 26: Lunch Bunch**

**June 25 - 27: Travelers'**

**June 30: Fifth Wednesday Contest (8 pm)**

## MEMBER PROFILE

### Who IS Ernest A. Johnson?

Celebrity comes to people sometimes in the strangest ways. That is certainly the case with longtime ASAE member Ernest Johnson.

In early February, the question in the minds of many ASAE members was, "Who is Ernest A. Johnson?"

Due to a computer glitch, Johnson's name appeared in the heading of the *Resource e-News* that was sent electronically to all ASAE members. His e-mail address is the first listing in the Society's database and somehow by computer "magic" his name made an appearance on all the newsletters.

Soon after the newsletter was sent to members, the *Resource* staff got calls and e-mails asking, "Who is Ernest A. Johnson?"

"I thought ASAE was personalizing the newsletter," says Johnson. That was until he was contacted by another ASAE member and good friend who told him he also got the newsletter with Johnson's name on it.

"I was then aware that something was wrong," says Johnson, "but I didn't worry too much about it."

Now known, at least in name, to many ASAE members, Johnson has been a member of the Society for 51 years.

His interest in engineering started in Petersham, Mass., where he grew up on a dairy farm.

"I was always interested in engineering and mathematics, and it didn't look like a rocky hill town in Massachusetts held much future in farming," says Johnson. "Engineering looked like a good match."

Johnson pursued a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from the University of Massachusetts and graduated in 1953. He then went to Purdue University where he worked for the USDA and the Purdue Extension Service while pursuing his master's degree, which he received in 1959.

His father's illness on the family farm brought him back to Massachusetts

where he took a faculty position with the agricultural engineering department at the University of Massachusetts. He retired from the university in 1991.



Ernest A. Johnson pictured here with his wife, Claire, are both actively involved with amateur radio in the area of emergency communications.

His membership in ASAE has been very valuable to Johnson in a number of ways. "Even today, it has been the acquaintances and the fact I can call on so many people to consult with about problems that is the most valuable," he says.

Johnson believes technology has changed everything for the better in the field of agricultural engineering.

"Our field has done a remarkable job of increasing the productivity of agriculture and will continue to improve the lot of people even as the population is increasing," he says.

Johnson advises anyone considering the field of agricultural engineering to get a well-rounded education. "Take everything you can take," he says. "In addition to engineering and mathematics, take courses in history, economics, and sociology."

With two daughters both living in Oregon, Johnson and his wife, Claire, have recently made the transition to making that state their permanent home.

The couple live on a small beef farm with eight head of cattle. "Very small,"

Johnson laughs. His wife, a botanist who also taught at the University of Massachusetts, maintains an extensive vegetable garden. "I till it, fertilize it, and irrigate it," says Johnson. "But she does all the work."

Johnson's interest in electricity and electronics has led him and his wife into the world of amateur radio. "We have become deeply involved with amateur radio, particularly in the emergency communications aspect," says Johnson. He is currently an assistant emergency coordinator with the Washington County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) in Oregon. His wife is a net manager for a traffic net with the group. "A net is the term used for a meeting on the air," says Claire.

ARES organizations operate in support of state and local emergency management. ARES teams participate in severe weather observation, search and rescue operations, support of major public events, and any situation where reliable communications links are needed to replace or augment normal emergency communications systems.

Amateur radio operators are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and licenses are issued to individuals who, through rigorous testing, have demonstrated their knowledge and expertise in radio theory and procedure.

"We have as many licenses as you can get in ham radio," says Johnson.

Johnson says there aren't many catastrophes in his area. One they have prepared themselves for, however, is a possible massive earthquake.

His involvement in ARES is a lot of work says Johnson. "It's satisfying to know that we are here if needed."

Johnson immensely values the friendships he has made over the years, both in his career and from his membership in ASAE. His "instant" celebrity may now bring him a few more!

## HEAD FOR THE HILLS, JD Fort, K7JDF

Heading for the hills could easily be the theme of this year's Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Field Day. The Coastal foothills, that is, as we pack up and head for Anderson Park, just blocks from beautiful downtown Vernonia. (See Maps on page 5)

In case you have been too busy spring cleaning the shack, as you read this Field Day 2004 is only a few short, and I do mean short, weekends away. Officially ARRL Field Day is defined as an event: To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and in doing so to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

The OTVARC tradition adds to that a goodly amount of coffee drinking, eye-to-eye qso's and just plain old fun and fellowship around the radios.

We are still in need of operators for all shifts. Setup help beginning Saturday Morning at 7:00 am would be much appreciated. A reminder that the official Field Day operating time period is 1800 UTC Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am) through 2100 UTC (1:00 pm) Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Remember, the Saturday night Travelers potluck is open to all. It usually gets started between five and seven Saturday evening (shoot for 5:30 pm, give or take OTVARC time). Find us on talk-in frequencies: 2 meter simplex at 147.54; the club repeater at 146.96 (-).

At our June 9th meeting I'll have a presentation that will include a closer look at the actual Field Day site. Travel directions and information booth volunteer sign ups plus operating shift planning sheets will be available.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

**Do you know of a business that would benefit from advertising in THE OSCILLATOR?**

**If so, let the editor know.**

**Rates and packages available on request.**

### WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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Portland OR 97223  
503-598-0555 Fax: 503-684-0469  
800-854-6046

### Happy June Birthday

- 1 Alan Morse
- 8 Darwin Durr K7PSD
- 11 Hanford VanNess KE7BB
- 15 James Fischer KD7KTV
- 21 Claire Johnson N7CM  
Fred Dayton WA7TTD
- 25 Elizabeth Thutt KC7PMX
- 27 Emerson Hoyt WX7E
- 30 Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP

### NEEDED FOR FIELD DAY

**SATURDAY MORNING at 7:00 AM**  
**A DOZEN VOLUNTEERS TO SETUP OUR**  
**OPERATING SHELTER (SILVER TOP)**

**4 TABLES FOR OPERATING POSITION**  
**VOLUNTEERS FOR INFORMATION TABLE**  
**QUIET HONDA GENERATOR**  
**SIGN CREW**

**TALKIN STATION OPERATORS FOR**  
**REPEATER & SIMPLEX STATIONS**

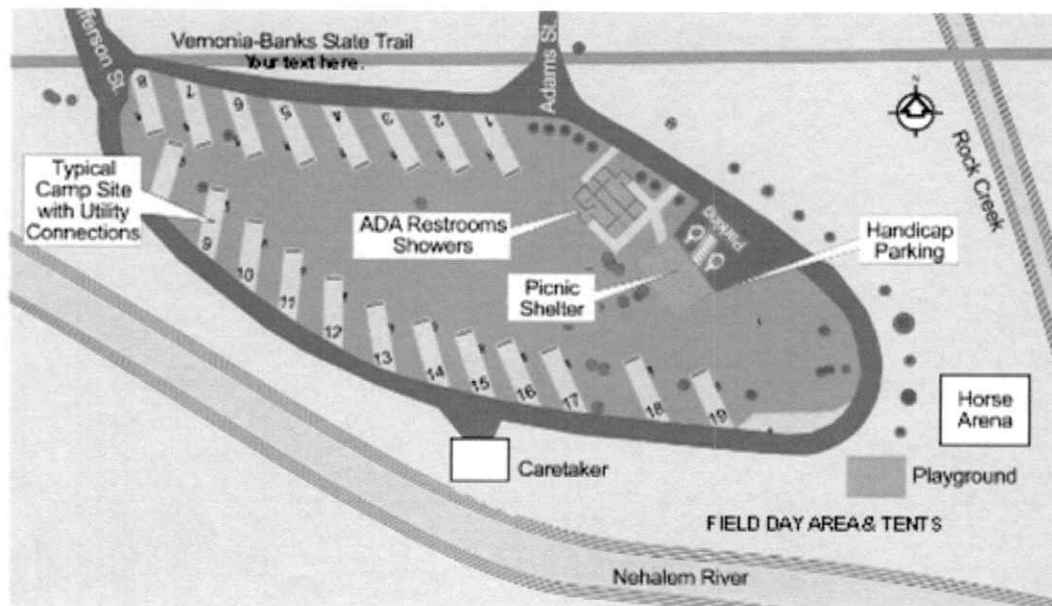
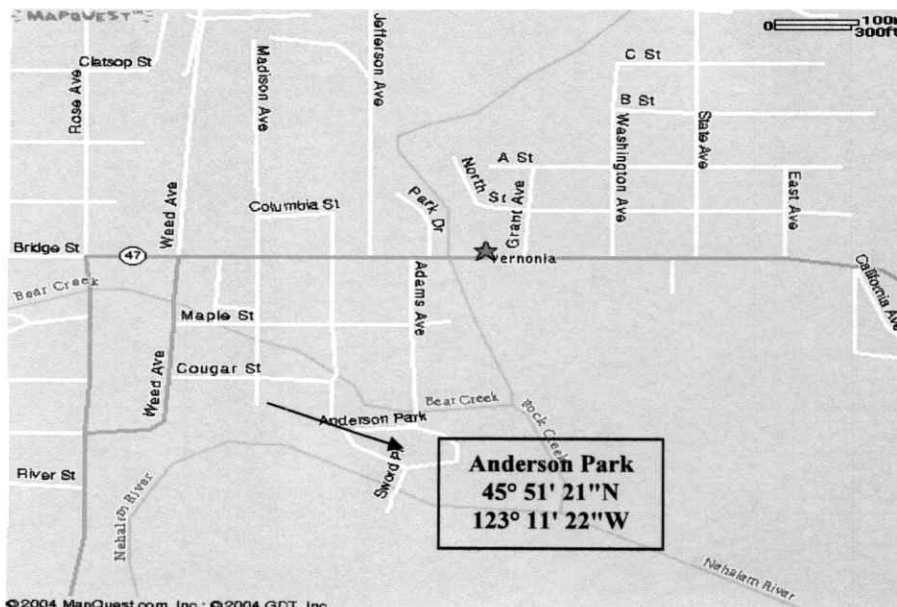
**ANTICIPATION OF LOTS OF FUN**



## OLLIE SHOWS OFF THE FIELD DAY SITE

Get your TOPO Map of Anderson Park:

[www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=5078737&e=484593&s=50&size=l&u=2&layer=DRG25](http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=5078737&e=484593&s=50&size=l&u=2&layer=DRG25)





## REACH THE BEACH, Randy KZ7T

Reach the Beach is an annual event and is the main fund raiser for the Lung Association. There are around 2000 riders. This year was different. Two riders were hit by vehicles, one fell and broke his hip, and two non-participants got into a fight with broken beer bottles. But let me start from the beginning.

I felt that that this year might be different because I lost 6 of my regular operators. They had good reasons. Wednesday before the event, Richard Christie WA6TVX, the ham with the medic, called to report that his sciatica was acting up and he could stand or lay down but not sit. I called four hams that might be able to help. Then I called Bob and Rox Heath. Rox said that she and Bob were a little under the weather and didn't feel that they should ride so she would work with the medic. Bob would be a SAG. I finally had a team. All four others called back and none could help.

There were 16 radio operators, and one important assistant, my wife, 7 SAGS, 3 staged at major exchanges, 1 at Amity, 1 at Grand Ronde, 1 with the Director, and 1 with the Medic. Some SAGs are rented 16 passenger vans, the rest are private vehicles. The hams were Jim KB7ADH, Craig K7UKW, Ken W7DYX, Carol WA7YEC, Robbin KD7MRU, Ryan KD7QZL, Derek KD7PEL, Bob KD7OHF (driver), Bob W7AFR (driver), Joe KD7UZH Grand Ronde, Don N7TDR Amity, KA5OLH Ewing School, N7LMK Elks Lodge, Paul, KC7WNP and Rox, KD7OHE. The job of the SAG wagons is to watch the cyclist to make sure that they have enough water and if injured call net control who gets the ambulance. If a bike is broken, they transport it to the nearest repair station. My wife is important because she keeps a record of everything that happens by time. When we get home it is faxed to Metro West as an unbiased report. If, for any reason, there would be a court case these logs come in handy.

Metro West Ambulance has 3 ambulances and a director in a van. The ambulances are staged so that they are able to react quickly. One of the ambulances is called RAT Mobile. It means Retrieve and Transport. They are trained for retrieving people that have fallen over a cliff.

There are four starts on this event, Portland, Salem, Amity and Grand Ronde. The Portland and Salem re-group at Amity. Grand Ronde is the start for the Mountain Bike course. It consists of a challenge and a regular ride. The challenge, which is on Forest Service Road 2282 is three miles long and up to 2300 Ft. It is called Little Hebo. It turns at the top to Forest Service Road 2281. At this point they start down hill and at the bottom they can turn and get back on the highway portion or cross Hwy 22, to the regular Mountain bike road. It is 22 miles long and comes back into the Little Nestucca Highway. The regular bike route is all pavement.

Everything went along very well until the medics saw a Subaru start up the challenge road going against the course and driving too fast. The driver thought he could drive like the people on the TV ads. At 11:35 am the Subaru came back down and reported that they hit a cyclist and he was badly hurt. The medic called on the radio and asked if I could call 911 and activate Life Flight. Our ambulance three miles up the course with the riders as it is very dangerous to go against them. He found the cyclist and reported that Life Flight was not needed but asked for a call for an ambulance and OSP. At 12:10 PM we were notified that another cyclist was hit by a car east of the summit. I called 911 again and dispatched an ambulance. At 12:40 we were told that a cyclist fell and hurt his hip. Later we found out it was broken. Guess what? I called 911 again. By now the operator knew me, she would say "yes Randy what can we do for you." Back at the summit the OSP trooper was talking to the driver of the Subaru. The medics were there. A white van with 5 men came out of the woods. The first fellow got out and had a huge bleeding cut on his arm. The second got out and had a bleeding cut from his ear to the tip of his chin. They were fighting over a stolen beer. They were slashing at one another with broken beer bottles. If the medics hadn't been there I believe the second wouldn't have made it. The Trooper said that the two couldn't ride in the same ambulance, so I called again and the operator said that they were fresh out of ambulances. We used one of ours and took the fellow in worst condition to the trauma center in McMinnville. The situation calmed down and things went back to normal. All of the ambulances went to Lincoln City except the one that went to McMinnville.

Now for recognitions: Rox Heath, KD7OHE did an absolute yeoman's job. Larry the Medic director was out of the van working on patients so Rox would get information and relay it to me. The 911 gal had to call me back for more information so I would lay the cell phone in front of the radio speaker and she could listen. I called Rox, she got the information and relayed it to me. I am worried that if I called her again to volunteer she would just hang up on me. One other thing that really impresses me is that when we are on repeaters, every one would stay off. The regular people that use the repeaters are very thoughtful and courteous. We used 147.32, Portland, 145.33 Salem and the 147.220 Mt Hebo machines. It was a very long day. We got up to Mt Hebo at 5:30 AM and got down at 6:30 PM. Stopped in the town of Hebo had dinner and got home at 9:00 PM. What a day! Amateur radio made a huge difference. I can't say the public service is boring.

## OTVARC 5TH WEDNESDAY RADIO CONTEST - June 30, 2004

- 1) Object: To work as many amateur stations as possible in as many different 5-digit ZIP codes as possible, using 147.54 FM simplex.
- 2) Contest Period: 2000 local through 2100 local, Wednesday, June 30, 2004 (8:00 – 9:00 PM PDT).
- 3) Categories:
  - A) Single Operator: One person performs all operating and logging functions.
  - B) Single Operator QRP: Same as (A) with a power limitation of 5 watts.
  - C) Multi-operator: More than one person performing operating and logging functions.
- 4) Exchange: Operating 5-digit ZIP Code and Station Category.
- 5) Scoring:
  - A) QSO points: Count one (1) point for each complete single operator or multi-operator QSO. Count two (2) points for each complete single operator QRP contact.
  - B) Multiplier: The total number of 5-digit ZIP codes worked,
  - C) Total score: Multiply the total number of QSO points by the multiplier.
- 6) Miscellaneous:
  - A) Partial QSOs do not count. Both calls, the full exchange, and acknowledgement must be sent and received.
  - B) While no minimum distance is specified for contacts, equipment should be capable of real communications (ie. able to communicate over at least 1 km.).
  - C) Use of repeaters and telephones to coordinate contacts is not allowed.
  - D) Rovers are not allowed as entries in the contest. Mobile stations can be contacted by stations in the contest. Mobile stations will not have a ZIP code and will not count toward the multiplier count.
  - E) Only one call may be used by any station.
- 7) Reporting:
  - A) Entries must be delivered to the contest organizers at or before the July 14, 2004 OTVARC club meeting. (to: Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH), or by mail to the Club Post Office Address.
  - B) Entries must be made on log sheets showing time of QSO, Call, Zip Code and Contest Category.
- 8) Awards:
  - A) Certificates will be awarded for the top points winner in each station category.
  - B) Awards will be made at the club meeting August 11, 2004.

### Contest Summary Sheet

Call Used \_\_\_\_\_ Operating ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Operators \_\_\_\_\_

Category: A - Single Op B - Single Op QRP C - Multi-operator

|          |                                   |             |  |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Scoring: | Category A QSO's _____            | x 1 = _____ |  |
|          | Category B QSO's _____            | x 2 = _____ |  |
|          | Category C QSO's _____            | x 1 = _____ |  |
|          | TOTAL QSO Points _____            |             |  |
|          | Times Number of Zip Codes x _____ |             |  |
|          | TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE _____         |             |  |

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Attach Log Sheets detailing all contacts, including Call, ZIP Code, Category, and Time.

# CLUB MEETING JUNE 9TH

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG  
w7otv@arrl.net  
Simplex: 147.54 MHz  
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz  
440.350 MHz (127.3)  
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**Oregon Tualatin Valley  
Amateur Radio Club**



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## CLUB INFORMATION

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

Membership dues are \$16/year; Family member(s) of full members at same address \$21/household; Full Time students and members of two years or more at age 70 or older (Life Members) are dues free. See Club Treasurer about purchase of life membership prior to age 70. If you wish to join during the year, dues are pro-rated.

Membership applications may be found on the Club Website or on request from the Treasurer.

The OSCILLATOR is published Monthly for members. The deadline for the July issue is Tuesday, June 22nd.

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